

# Metering Services Review (MSR)

MSR industry readiness approach  
Packages 1&2



# Context

The Accelerating Smart Meter Deployment Rule\* seeks to implement the recommendations of the AEMC's review of the metering framework in 2023.

To enable an acceleration for the deployment of smart meters, the rule outlines a regulatory change that requires Distribution Network Service Providers (DNSPs) to create a Legacy Meter Replacement Plan (LMRP) to schedule the replacement of their type 5 and 6 (legacy) metering installations. FRMPs will be responsible for engaging Metering Coordinators (MCs) to replace legacy metering installations with smart metering installations according to the schedule.

To facilitate the accelerated deployment, the AEMC requires new processes for the management of site defects and metering installations that have shared points of isolation. The final rule requires a formal defect registration process which will require MCs to record a defect and type of defect.

There is a new requirement on MCs, for the provision of a basic Power Quality Data (PQD) service to DNSPs.

In addition, there will be new obligations for industry coordination between DNSPs, FRMPs and MCs for sites with shared points of isolation. Retailers are required to provide notifications to customers regarding the installation of a smart metering installation.

Finally, the final rule requires AEMO to develop a guideline to assist MCs in their development of asset management strategies for testing and inspecting metering installations and makes changes to the arrangements for the testing and inspection of legacy metering installations and the management of metering installation malfunctions.

\* [AEMC – Accelerating smart meter deployment – Rule Change](#)

# Context (continued)

Further to delivering changes to support the Accelerating Smart Meter Deployment Rule, the initial MSR software release will also contain the following changes:

- ICF-077 Auto population of the LCCD based on NMI status
- ICF-078, B002/22 & B004/22 Alignment of Addressing in B2M Procedures to AS4590.1.2017
- Embedded Settlement Network Anomalies
- Improved RoLR report functionality and standardisation of RoLR reports

# Purpose of Initiative Readiness Approach

- To assist industry with their own planning and delivery activities to be ready for the implementation of the changes supporting the Metering Services Review as they are operationalised.
- To define the criteria against which go-live decisions will be made.
- Aligns to and supports the implementation approaches for this initiative.
- The Readiness Approach, forms the basis of participant readiness activities in line with the principles in the [NEM 2025 Industry and Business Readiness Strategy](#).

# MSR Confirmed Changes

AEMO will deliver the MSR solution in 3 work packages. The scope of this readiness approach covers Packages 1 & 2. A separate readiness approach will be produced to support Package 3, the PQD implementation.

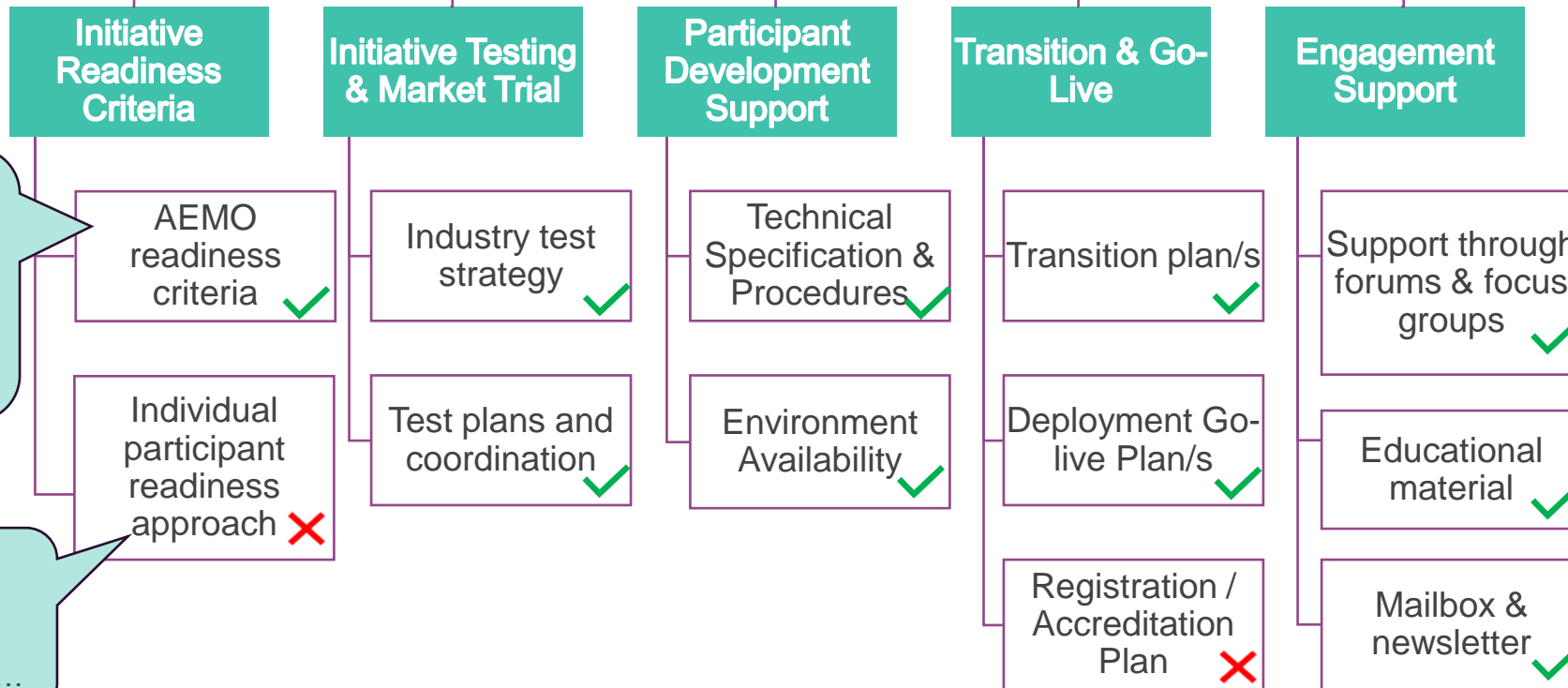
- Package 1
  - Content - LMRP, Metering Installation Defects, one-in-all-in processes and matters critical to the go-live commencement.
  - System changes in production – late October 2025.
- Package 2
  - Content – Testing and inspection guidelines, Metering installation malfunctions.
  - System changes in production – late October 2025.
- Package 3
  - Content - Power Quality Data (PQD).
  - System changes in production – June 2026.
  - The requirement for MDPs to provide power quality data will be addressed in MSR Release 2 and is not in the scope of this document.

# Context: NEM Reform program industry strategy

## NEM REFORM READINESS STRATEGY (ALL INITIATIVES)

### MSR PACKAGES 1&2 READINESS APPROACH

MSR readiness approach adopts the standard NEM Reform program framework



• AEMO solution needs to be updated and tested  
• AEMO business needs to be ready to operate  
• AEMO IT support needs to be in place

Individual participant (or participant category) readiness is **NOT** a dependency for go-live ...

## RISK & CONTINGENCY MANAGEMENT ✓

## INITIATIVE READINESS REPORTING ✓ & GO-LIVE CRITERIA MANAGEMENT ✓

# MSR industry readiness impact assessment

## – Packages 1&2



READINESS AREA	INITIAL VIEW OF INDUSTRY READINESS APPROACH	
<b>Initiative readiness criteria</b>	Individual participant readiness approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individual participant (or participant category) readiness is <b>not</b> a dependency for go-live for MSR Packages 1 &amp; 2, However, Participants using AEMOs Retail Systems may need to upgrade their systems and processes to comply with the rule change.</li> </ul>
	AEMO readiness criteria	By the MSR Package 1 & 2 commencement date, AEMO's: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Solution needs to be updated and tested for:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changes supporting the introduction of the LMRPs</li> <li>Changes resulting from ICF-077 and ICF-078</li> <li>Updated B2B and B2M schemas</li> <li>Changes to RoLR process</li> <li>Changes to Metering installation malfunctions process</li> </ul> </li> <li>Business needs to be ready to operate.</li> <li>IT support needs to be in place.</li> </ul>
<b>Initiative testing</b>	Industry test strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An Industry test strategy will be developed in collaboration with industry for MSR Packages 1 &amp; 2 and separately for MSR Package 3.</li> <li>The Test Strategy will outline the approach, scope and timing of the Industry Test, with detailed scenarios provided in the Industry Test Plan.</li> <li>MSR industry testing:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will be needed for DNSPs, FRMPs, MDPs, MP and MCs to bilaterally test new and changed Change Requests and CATS Notifications.</li> <li>Will enable Participants to test the B2M and B2B schema update process.</li> <li>Will enable Participants to test MSATS Browser changes.</li> <li>Will enable DNSPs, FRMPs, MDPs, MP and MCs to validate end to end process.</li> </ul> </li> <li>AEMO proposes that a market trial will not be required and that a co-ordinated industry test will be facilitated.</li> <li>AEMO has scheduled an industry testing period commencing 12 weeks prior to the Package 1 commencement date. During this period, pre-production will be available for self-testing and bilateral testing of the respective MSR functionality.</li> </ul>
	Test plans and coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The LMRP component of the industry test will be a coordinated test and a test plan will be developed by AEMO in conjunction with Participants. Test plans for the remaining functionality are to be developed independently by impacted participants appropriate to own requirements.</li> <li>Industry Test Working Group (ITWG) sessions will provide updates on testing progress and to provide additional support. Sign up <a href="#">here</a></li> </ul>
<b>Participant development support</b>	Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The MSR rule change indicates that <b>updates</b> will be required to the following procedures: B2B Procedures, MSATS Procedures, Metering procedures and Metrology Procedures.</li> <li>Consultation and subsequent changes to <b>existing</b> procedures for Package 1 are scheduled to be finalised by 2 April 2025.</li> <li>Consultation and subsequent changes to <b>existing</b> procedures for Package 2 are scheduled to be finalised by 1 July 2025.</li> </ul>
	Technical specifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EMMS data model technical specification: The MSR changes do not impact the EMMS Data Model.</li> <li>MSATS technical specification: MSR Packages 1 &amp; 2 will have an impact on MSATS. These changes will be reflected via iterative MSATS technical specification releases. The October 2025 Tech Spec can be found on the <a href="#">AEMO   Technical Specification Portal</a>. The final version of the r46 aseXML 7 schema and build version of the MSATS Technical Specification will be available 4 months prior to the planned industry test commencement.</li> </ul>

# MSR industry readiness impact assessment

## – Packages 1&2

READINESS AREA	INITIAL VIEW OF INDUSTRY READINESS APPROACH	
Participant development support	Technical specifications (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Market Systems User Group (MSUG) sessions will be available for additional technical support. <a href="#">Sign up details</a></li> </ul>
	Environment availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AEMO's pre-production environment will be available to support industry testing from 8 September 2025 through to the MSR rule commencement on 1 December 2025.</li> </ul>
	IT development support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Participant Development Support Environment (PDSE) is not needed as the MSR Package 1&amp;2 changes to AEMO's systems will be only incremental change to the existing systems. It is therefore expected that development support can be managed in the pre-production environment.</li> <li>AEMO will run twice weekly Q&amp;A sessions during the Industry Test period to support participants.</li> <li>A High-Level Implementation Assessment (HLIA) has been published on AEMO's public website <a href="#">MSR HLIA</a>.</li> <li>As required, AEMO will provide industry support via NEM Reform forums, information sessions and focus groups for affected participants. These engagements will be scheduled as the IT design and approach is formalised to support participants development.</li> </ul>
Transition and go-live	Transition plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AEMO will develop a Transition plan with the DSNPs for their respective Legacy Meter Replacement Plans (LMRPs).</li> <li>AEMO will facilitate the loading of LRMPs into MSATS.</li> </ul>
	Go-live plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Go-Live Plans will be developed in consultation with industry for MSR Packages 1&amp;2 and separately for MSR Package 3.</li> </ul>
	Registration or accreditation plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are no accreditation requirements stipulated in the MSR rule however, MCs have additional obligations that will be stipulated in the Guide to the Role of the Metering Coordinator.</li> </ul>
Engagement support	Forums and Focus groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The NEM Reform Program will support affected market participants in each reform phase from implementation design, procedures development, solution delivery and through to coordinated industry testing.</li> <li>Support will be provided as required via NEM Reform forums, information sessions, focus groups, 1:1s and daily Q&amp;A sessions.</li> <li>Engagement has commenced on major new MSR deliverables. Affected participants may wish to attend the following sessions:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information Exchange Committee (IEC) for B2B Procedures.</li> <li>Electricity Retail Consultative Forum (ERCF) for MSATS Procedures.</li> <li>Market Systems User Group (MSUG) for assistance with MSATS Technical Specifications.</li> <li>LMRP Focus Group will be scheduled to coordinate the loading of LMRPs into Pre-prod and Production.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Educational material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AEMO will make available educational material to support awareness, assessment and preparation for affected participants. Made available through the project's dedicated webpage, this may include, but is not limited to, guides and factsheets, FAQs and industry presentations.</li> </ul>
	Mailbox and newsletter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants support provided via monitored mailbox.</li> <li>Regular communications around project milestones.</li> </ul>

# MSR industry readiness impact assessment – Packages 1&2

READINESS AREA	INITIAL VIEW OF INDUSTRY READINESS APPROACH
<b>Risk &amp; contingency management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Will be developed in consultation with industry.</li></ul>
<b>Initiative readiness reporting &amp; go-live criteria management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• AEMO will report to industry, progress against confirmed L1/L2 industry readiness milestones on a regular basis through NEM Reform forums.</li><li>• AEMO will also provide formal checkpoints against go-live criteria to provide assurance of implementation preparations ahead of industry test period and go-live, allowing time for finalising AEMO's and Participant's business preparations:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prior to Industry Test start – 8 September 2025.</li><li>• Go-live criteria will be published on 15 May 2025.</li><li>• Formalised participant readiness reporting for is not required, however DNSPs have an obligation to load LMRPs by 27 Nov 2025.</li><li>• There are no mandatory participant transition or preparation activities that if not performed will impact technical readiness for market or other participants.</li></ul></li></ul>